OPDX Bulletin 1344 December 18, 2017

The Ohio/Penn Dx PacketCluster
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Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW
Provided by BARF80.ORG (Cleveland, Ohio)
Written/Sent From Strongsville, Oh

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DXCC COUNTRY/ENTITY REPORT

According to the AR-Cluster Network for the week of Sunday, 10th/December, through Sunday, 17th/December there were 217 countries active. Countries available: 3B8, 3D2, 3DA, 3V, 3W, 4J, 4L, 4O, 4S, 4U1I, 4X, 5A, 5B, 5R, 5T, 5V, 5W, 5Z, 6W, 6Y, 7X, 8P, 8Q, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9L, 9M2, 9M6, 9Q, 9V, 9X, 9Y, A3, A4, A6, A7, A9, AP, BV, BY, C2, C3, C5, C6, C9, CE, CE0Y, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU, CX, D2, DL, DU, E3, E4, E5/s, E7, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, EL, EP, ER, ES, ET, EU, EX, EY, F, FG, FJ, FK, FM, FO, FR, FS, FY, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW, H4, HA, HB, HB0, HC, HH, HI, HK, HK0/a, HL, HP, HR, HS, HZ, I, IS, J2, J5, J6, J7, J8, JA, JD/o, JT, JW, JY, K, KG4, KH2, KH6, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU, LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OH0, OJ0, OK, OM, ON, OX, OY, OZ, P2, P4, PA, PJ2, PJ4, PJ5, PY, PZ, S0, S5, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV5, SV9, T2, T7, TA, TF, TG, TI, TK, TR, TY, TZ, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V3, V4, V5, V7, V8, VE, VK, VK9L, VK9N, VP2E, VP2M, VP2V, VP8, VP8/h, VP9, VQ9, VR, VU, XE, XX9, YA, YB, YK, YL, YN, YO, YS, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, ZA, ZB, ZD7, ZF, ZL, ZL9, ZP, ZS

PLEASE NOTE: The report "could" contain "Pirate/SLIM" operations or more likely a "BUSTED CALLSIGN". As always, you never know - "Work First Worry Later".

3Y0X BOUVET DXPEDITION NEWS. The QSLs for the 3Y0Z Bouvet DXpedition will be handled by Bob, N2OO, and he will again serve as their QSL manager. He and his South Jersey DX Association team members will assure accurate and efficient handling of 3Y0Z QSL cards.

WEB PAGE UPDATE (Dec. 16, 2017): "The Bouvet Island DXpedition team has been very busy. In the last week, weï¿½ve had Skype conference calls with the CEO of our transportation company and with the captain of our ship. We can report that everything we can control is under control.

Our sea container is in Punta Arenas, and should be moving out of customs bond or may have already done so. We are gathering some additional last minute supplies to take as extra baggage, including ice screws, should we find ourselves camping on re-frozen melt areas on the glacier. We have finalized our shelter layouts, fuel calculations, maritime mobile antenna plans, and have assigned some duties relating to flight and cargo staging. The team members will all be taking a formal marine safety course before embarking.

Neither our transportation company nor the shipï¿½s captain expressed any worries or concerns over the recent seismic activity near Bouvet.

And, yes, we are still struggling with the helicopter flying hours issue." See their Web page at: https://www.bouvetdx.org/news-and-updates

4B4, REVILLAGIGEDO. Mark, XE1B, will be active as 4B4B from Socorro Island (NA-030, WW Loc. DK48mr), in the Revillagigedo Islands, between March 1-15th, 2018. Activity will be on 160-6 meters (no 30m) using SSB. Suggested frequencies are: 1850, 3790, 7065/7165, 7165, 14195, 18140, 21295, 24940, 28475 and 50140 kHz. Equipment will be an Icom IC-7600 transceiver with an ACOM 1010 amp into a Spiderbeam (20-10m), vertical for 40/80m, 160m long wire and a 4 element yagi for 6m. QSL via XE1B direct or ClubLog's OQRS. PLEASE support this DXpedition, it has been 7 years since the last operation by Mark, XE1B. Check out QRZ.com for more details and possible updates.

4X, ISRAEL. Larry, K2LS, will once again be active as 4X/K2LS from Ramat Bet Shemesh (Holyland Grid G18JS) between January 10th and February 6th. Activity will be mainly on CW. QSL via K2LS, direct, by the Bureau or LoTW.

BEST EME DAYS. Lance, W7GJ, informs OPDX of the following: "I have just updated my web page to show the optimum 6m EME days for the next 3 years:
http://www.bigskyspaces.com/w7gj/BestEMEDays.txt
Although these days were selected when the 50 MHz Degradation was at or below 3 dB, these periods of course should also be most favorable for 2m EME. Please share this link with anyone you know planning a VHF EME DXpedition, including any HF people interested in including EME activities during their operations.
MNI TNX and Happy Holidays! Best wishes for great 6m and 2m DXing in the coming year!..... GL and VY 73, Lance"

E5, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS. Mauri, AG1LE, is once again active as E51DXX on a holiday/DXpedition from Rarotonga (OC-013) until December 29th. Activity will be on various HF bands using SSB, PSK31 and FT8. QSL via his home callsign.

EA8, CANARY ISLANDS. Mauro, IV3HAX, will once again be active as EA8/IV3HAX from Fuerteventura Island (AF-004) between December 24th and January 5th, 2018. Activity will be on various HF bands with a focus on 160/80m using CW, RTTY and FT8. QSL via IV3HAX direct, LoTW and ClubLog's OQRS.

ET, ETHIOPIA. You may catch Masa, AJ3M, in Addis Ababa, before he leaves on Monday, December 18th. During his spare time he is active from the ET3AA radio club. QSL via N2OO.

H44, SOLOMON ISLANDS. Shane, VK4KHZ, will once again be active as H44DA from his holiday home in Busuone, Guadalcanal Island (OC-047), until sometime early January 2018. His main focus is on 6 meters, but he will also be active on various HF bands (80/40/20/15/10m) using SSB and also on the SO-50 satellite. Suggested 6m frequencies are: calling on 50.110 MHz, Shane will always QSY to 50.125 as his primary frequency and 50.135 as his secondary frequency (secondary frequency will only be used if primary is in use or too much QRM). QSL via his home callsign direct. NO Bureau. PLEASE NOTE: This is not a DXpedition, but Shane's annual holiday - he will be operating the radio only as time permits and when

doing so, training the locals in the operation of the equipment so please be patient and courteous.

IOTA NEWS.....

AS-088. Members of Qatar Amateur Radio Society (QARS) will be active as A70X from Al Safliyah Island between January 1-6th, 2018. Activity will be on various HF bands using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via M0OXO or OQRS.

OC-016. Jim, WB2TJO, will once again be active as 3D2JS from Taveuni Island, Fiji, between early January and the middle of March, 2018. Activity will be on 40-15 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. The rig will be an ICOM 706 MK IIG with an MFJ 971 manual tuner. QSL via his home callsign.

OC-105/ OC-174. Dindo, DU1UD, will be active as DU1UD/8 from the very rare Mapun Island (OC-105) [also called Cagayan Sulu], part of the Cagayan De Sulu IOTA Group, in the Philippines, during the first or second quarter of 2018. Activity will probably be on the IOTA frequencies using an Elecraft K3 with a KPA500 amplifier into a VDA and vertical antennas. The length of his stay is dependent on local/safety conditions. During this time Dindo will make a return visit to the Tawi Tawi Group (OC-174). QSL both operations via M0OXO, direct or by his OQRS. Look for more information to be forthcoming. Also, watch the M0OXO Web page at: https://www.m0oxo.com

PLEASE NOTE: Since the Webmasters of the new have decided NOT to post or dedicate a Web page to announce upcoming IOTA operations, PLEASE send your IOTA operations information to the OPDX and we will post it here in an upcoming bulletin.....

J5, GUINEA BISSAU. Livio, IZ3BUR, will be active as J52EC from the Cumura High School in Guinea Bissau between January 24th and February 21st, 2018. Activity will be mainly on 20/15/10 meters. QSL via IZ3BUR. PLEASE NOTE: This project is part of "Books for the high school of Cumura" by Father Gianfranco, J52OFM. For info see: http://www.padregianfranco.org Any donation will be greatly appreciated, it'll be donated to the Cumura Mission.

KH1 BAKER ISLAND DXPEDITION (Press Release #3, dated December 15th). The Dateline DX Association is pleased to announce the callsign for its DXpedition to Baker Island in June 2018.

The Association already has the callsign KH7Z so we will identify our location and call as KH1/KH7Z.

Visiting a remote DX location like Baker Island is an expensive undertaking. Our budget is over $400,000 and 50% of this cost is being underwritten by the team members. That still leaves a large amount of fundraising. Do you need KH1 for an ATNO? This is the first DXpedition to Baker and Howland Islands since 2002. The FWS ruling that allowed this trip prevents another DXpedition for 10 years. Please help make this happen by donating at our website . A 50% deposit on our vessel is due December 31, 2017, so we have an immediate need for our 2017 fundraising. Please remember that NCDXF members may direct donations above $250 through the Northern California DX Foundation to qualify for

a tax deduction. The specific details as well as general donation instructions are on our website at
Thanks for helping make this happen.
The Dateline DX Association
Don Greenbaum, N1DG, Tom Harrell, N4XP, and Kevin Rowett, K6TD co-leaders

LOTW TO ADD SUPPORT FOR CQ WAZ AWARD. The ARRL Web page reports: Participants in CQ magazine's Worked All Zones (WAZ) award program will soon be able to use the Logbook of the World (LoTW) system of ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio, to apply for the WAZ award and its endorsements, both ARRL and CQ announced on December 14th. Read the complete announcement at: http://ow.ly/q4TV30hecZ9
http://www.arrl.org/news/view/logbook-of-the-world-to-add-support-for-cq-waz-award
http://cqnewsroom.blogspot.com/2017/12/arrls-logbook-of-world-to-add-support.html

PJ7, ST. MAARTEN. Vadym, UT6UD, will be active as PJ7/UT6UD from Sint Maarten (NA-105) between December 30th and January 13th, 2018. Activity will be on 160-17 meters. There will be a special focus on JA stations. QSL via his home callsign or LoTW. NO Bureau.

PROPAGATION FORECAST/REPORT (December 18-24th).....

Dec/18th	LN	Dec/21st	AN	Dec/23rd	AN
Dec/19th	AN	Dec/22nd	AN	Dec/24th	AN
Dec/20th	AN				

SOLAR REFERENCE KEYS/INDEXES AND GEOMAGNETIC REFERENCE

NORMALITY	GEOMAG	K Values	Alpha
AN - Above Normal	Quiet	K=0-1	0-7
HN - High Normal	Unsettled	K=2	8-15
LN - Low Normal	Active	K=3	16-29
BN - Below Normal	Minor Storm	K=4	30-49
DIS - Disturbed	Major Storm	K=5	50-99
VRY DIS - Very Disturbed	Severe Storm	K=6-9	100-400

REALTIME BAND CONDITIONS WEB SITE :
The purpose of this experimental Web site is to provide 24-7-365 actual (REALTIME) band condition information to CW QRPp, QRPe and CW/SSB for Contesters interested in increasing their scores. It can also be of benefit to other Radio Amateurs to determine band conditions for Nets and casual QSO's. This information is NOT based on any software predictions or any kind of satellite based readings. It is based on a new Ionospheric sounding method called "HF Ionospheric Interferometry" which operates very similarly to the PolSAR system used by NASA.

Also, check out the VOACAP predication Web page at:
http://www.voacap.com/prediction.html
A daily HF radio wave propagation forecast can be found at:
https://www.facebook.com/thomasfranklingiellaw4hm
Also on Twitter: https://twitter.com/@GiellaW4hm

QSL INFO AND NEWS.....
QSL-INFO from DB0SDX by Lothar, DL1SBF (December 17th)

3G2M via CE2MVF	EA8/ON4LBI/P via ON4LBI	SC90SM via SK5SM
4E1ADW via 9V1KG	EM25IWW via UR7IWW	SH9YOTA via SH9YOTA (O/N)
5B4XMAS via IZ4AMS	HF2018HNY via SP2PBM	TC630MECCA via TA3X
7X5FG via F6FZG (d)	HF3T via SP3FYX & (L)	TI5/N3KS via W4FS (d)
9H3CW via DL5SE	HG1A via HA1ZN	UN9GD via DL8KAC
9H3YY via DL2JRM	N8S via K8UO (d)	UP0L via DL8KAC
CE2AWW via N7RO (d)	OT4A via ON4AEK (L/e)	VR20CO via VR2CO (d)
CS2017RCL via CS0RCL	OU5U via OZ3FD	W2S via W2CCW
CU5/CU3AK/P via CU3AK	OZ/DJ1AA/M via DJ1AA	YO13IPA via YO3AS
DL/UA1PBA via UA1PBA	PF44FF via PH0NO (O)	ZW5T via PY5ZD (d/I)
DM500RT via M0SDV (O/d/L)	PI40BOZ via PD3JAG	

(e) eQSL only (d) direct only (B) Bureau only (*-B) DX's- Bureau
(O) OQRS only (C) ClubLog only (L) LoTW only (N) No QSL needed
(I) No IRC

WX3MAS VIA W3OK: Delaware Lehigh ARC, 14 Gracedale Ave, Greystone Building, Nazareth, PA 18064-9211 USA. Send a QSL and a 9x12 SASE (Self Addressed Stamped Envelope) for a colorful commemorative certificate! ADDED NOTES: WX3MAS was the first special callsign issued in 1969 by the FCC for special event stations in the country and is active each year around 2 weeks before Christmas (This year December 16-17th). The station is sponsored by the Christmas City Amateur Radio Club and the Delaware/Lehigh Amateur Radio Club.

QSLS RECEIVED VIA LoTW: 3C0L (AF-039), 3C1L (AF-010), 4O4A, 4X1QQ, 5X8C, 9L/KW4XJ, A71AM, CE3FZ, CM2XN, CT1EKD, LU6ETB, HH2AA, HL5IVL, J5T, LX1HD, MM3LLU, OK1FRG, ON8DM, SP9FUY, V31MA, VA3TO, VK9CI, VK9MA (OC-072), VP9NM, XE2S, VK9XI and YL3GDM

QSLS RECEIVED VIA MAIL: 5T5OK, AL3/AA7CH (NA-062), C21JY, C93PA, E44WE, NL6/AA7CH (NA-157), PZ5V and S21ZAS

QSLS RECEIVED VIA THE BUREAU: 5P2I, 5P5Q, 5P6Q, 5Q2T, 5Q5T, JW/OX5M, OU2I, OX3LX, OX3MC, OX5M, OX5T, OX90EDR, OZ90IARU, TF3WK, VR2EH, VR2UBC, VR2ZQZ/P, VR20ZQZ, YC2/KC5VFV, XP1A and ZA/OU2I

VP6D DUCIE ISLAND DXPEDITION NEWS. It was announced on December 13th, that Vadym, UT6UD, has joined the VP6D team. Many of you may know Vadym from the Top Band. He was a member of the 2016 Heard Island DXpedition team. You can read his bio on the following URL:
http://vp6d.com/index.php/team-members/24-operators/137-ut6ud-vadym

YP2018, ROMANIA (Special Event). Look for special event station, YP2018HNY, to be active through January 15th, 2018. Activity is to celebrate Christmas and the New Year. They will try to be on all HF bands. QSL via YO3KPA, direct or by the Bureau or ClubLog. There will be a limited number of 1000 paper QSL cards.

YP[2-9], ROMANIA (Special Event). Look for the following special event Santa Claus stations to be active during December. Activity will be on various HF bands using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. An electronic award will be issued for working stations on at least 3 different bands upon request. QSL via YO9FNP or see QRZ.com (under YP2XMAS) for more details.

Here are the special event stations and their locations:

YP2XMAS - Timisoara	YP7XMAS - Arges
YP3XMAS - Bucuresti	YP8XMAS - Suceava
YP4XMAS - Cernavoda	YP9XMAS - Buzau
YP5XMAS - Transilvania	YP0XMAS - Giurgiu
YP6XMAS - Brasov	

ZC4, UK SOV. BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS (Postponed). Adrian, G0KOM, was expected to be active as ZC4MK from the UK Sovereign Base Areas on Cyprus between December 5-12th, but had to postpone again due to his father-in-law being hospitalizes. His father-in-law is now out of the hospital, and Adrian states that he has his gear still packed and he is now looking at dates in January 2018.

ZC4, UK SOV. BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS. Bob, 5B4AGN, and a team of operators will be active as ZC4A from the UK Sovereign Base Areas on Cyprus between January 24-31st, 2018. They plan to have 2-3 stations on the air on all HF bands, 160-10 meters, with a focus on CW, but with some SSB and Digital modes. Activity will include the CQ 160m CW Contest (January 26-28th). QSL via M0URX's OQRS system. Your QSL is not required.

TO BE ADDED TO THE OPDX MAILING LIST -- Click or send requests to:
Help: opdx-request@barf80.org?subject=help
Subscribe: opdx-request@barf80.org?subject=subscribe
Unsubscribe: opdx-request@barf80.org?subject=unsubscribe

OPDX WORLD-WIDE WEB HOME PAGE (provided by John, K8YSE):

http://www.papays.com/opdx.html

NOW ON TWITTER: https://twitter.com/kb8nw_opdx

ALSO VISIT THE NORTHERN OHIO DX ASSOCIATION'S WEB PAGES AT:

http://www.nodxa.org/
http://www.facebook.com/NorthernOhioDxAssociation

Excerpts and distribution of The OPDX Bulletin are granted as long as KB8NW/OPDX/BARF80 receive credit.

To contribute DX info, please send via InterNet Mail to:
kb8nw@barf80.nshore.org
- OR -
kb8nw@hotmail.com
- OR -
kb8nw@arrl.net

Information can now be faxed to the following phone line at:
1-419-828-7791 (F A X only!)

Back to the OPDX Index
Back to the NODXA
Back to the EIDX Network